PARTISAN DEFENCE COMMITTEE

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20 September 2018

Central Management Unit Public Prosecution Service Belfast Chambers 93 Chichester Street Belfast BT1 3JR

Dear Sirs,

The Partisan Defence Committee joins many individuals and organisations in protesting the 31 August arrest of Trevor Birney and Barry McCaffrey, journalists who worked on the documentary film *No stone unturned*. The film exposes the state's collusion with the UVF killers who massacred six Catholics in the Heights Bar in Loughinisland, Northern Ireland, in June 1994. The pretext for the arrest of the two journalists, and the seizure of their computers and files, is the alleged theft of documents from the Police Ombudsman's office. But in reality this is a blatant act of intimidation which aims to deter those who, in the words of Clare Rogan, whose husband was killed in the massacre, "seek to shine the light on the dark levels of collusion at the heart of the British state".

It is an outrage that these two journalists were arrested and questioned for 14 hours before being released. We demand their computers and documents be returned immediately. *Hands off Birney and McCaffrey!*

Yours sincerely,

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Kate Klein

cc: John Finucane, Finucane Toner Limited

Niall Murphy, KRW Law Seamus Dooley, NUJ

The Partisan Defence Committee is a class-struggle, non-sectarian legal and social defence organisation which champions cases and causes in the interest of the whole of the working people. This purpose is in accordance with the political views of the Spartacist League.